



NEWS RELEASE

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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 16, 2005***

Stephen M. O'Berry Found Guilty of Child Pornography Charges

BISMARCK - United States Attorney Drew H. Wrigley announced today that on December 15, 2005, **Stephen M. O'Berry**, 34, formerly of New Town, North Dakota, now residing in Dickinson, North Dakota, was found guilty by a federal jury on one count of receipt of material involving the sexual exploitation of minors and one count of possession of material involving the sexual exploitation of minors. Chief Judge Daniel L. Hovland presided over the case.

Between May 2003 and July 2004 **O'Berry** downloaded from the Internet and saved digital and computer images which presented minors engaging in sexually explicit conduct.

The charge of receipt of material involving the sexual exploitation of minors carries a statutory maximum penalty of 20 years in a Federal prison and a \$250,000 fine. The charge of possession of material involving the sexual exploitation of minors carries a statutory maximum penalty of 10 years in a Federal prison and a \$250,000 fine.

The case was investigated by United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement, North Dakota Bureau of Criminal Investigation, and Mountrail County Sheriff's Department, with the assistance of the Mountrail County State's Attorney's Office.

Sentencing for **O'Berry** has not been scheduled.

Assistant United States Attorney Clare Hochhalter prosecuted the case.

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